

REMARKS

Claims 3-4 and 17-18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 3, 4, 17 and 18 are amended, and claims 1-2 and 5-16 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Reconsideration of the present application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to Applicants' representative during the October 20 personal interview. Applicants' separate record of the substance of the personal interview is incorporated into the following remarks and constitutes Applicants' record of the interview.

The Office Action rejects claims 1-7, 9, 12 and 14-18 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,388,649 to Tanaka; claims 8, 10 and 13 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,516,607 to Iijima; and claim 11 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Tanaka in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,841,489 to Yoshida. Claims 1-2 and 5-16 are canceled. These rejections are respectfully traversed with respect to the remaining claims.

As discussed during the personal interview, the applied art fails to disclose a recording method for a photo addressable recording medium comprising turning off a display by applying a residual voltage, the residual voltage corresponding to the electrical charge, effectively smaller than the threshold voltage, as claimed in claim 3; and similarly claimed in claim 17; or a recording method for a photo addressable recording medium comprising controlling an electrical charge amount of the display element, an applied voltage exceeding the threshold voltage due to a partial voltage increased by the decrease of the resistance component of the optical switching element and an effectively generated voltage caused by a residual voltage corresponding to the electrical charge, as claimed in claim 4, and similarly claimed in claim 18.

As discussed during the personal interview, Tanaka merely discloses that:

The photoconductive layer 902 has the diode characteristics, so that the photoconductive layer 902 is in a low-resistance state during the application of forward bias voltage, and is in a high-resistance state during the application of reverse bias voltage, so as to generate a photoelectric current. For simplicity, the diode characteristics are assumed to be ideal (i.e., the forward resistance is zero, and the reverse resistance is infinity), and the dark current is assumed to be so small as compared with the photoelectric current that it can be neglected during the application of the reverse bias voltage (col. 14, lines 12-22; Fig. 9; Fig. 10).

Tanaka fails to disclose the use of a residual voltage in the manner recited in the pending claims.

Moreover, it is respectfully submitted that neither Iijima nor Yoshida overcome the deficiencies of Tanaka.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 3, 4 and 17-18 define over the applied art. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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